



**HOME BUILDERS & REMODELERS ASSOCIATION
OF CONNECTICUT, INC.**

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*Your Home
Is Our
Business*

**LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
Public Hearing
Testimony
March 9, 2023**

**To: Chairmen Rep. Sanchez, Sen. Kushner, Ranking Members Rep. Akert,
Sen. Sampson, and distinguished Members of the Labor & Public
Employee Committee**

From: Jim Perras, CEO

**Regarding: S.B. No. 1178 (RAISED) AN ACT EXPANDING CONNECTICUT PAID SICK
DAYS. (Oppose)**

**H.B. No. 6668 AN ACT MODERNIZING THE PAID SICK DAYS STATUTES.
(Oppose)**

The Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Connecticut (HBRA-CT) is a professional trade association with almost nine hundred business members statewide, employing tens of thousands of Connecticut residents. Our association of small businesses consists of residential and commercial builders, land developers, remodelers, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and those businesses and professionals that provide services to our diverse industry. We build between 70% to 80% of all new homes and apartments in Connecticut each year and engage in countless home remodeling projects.

The HBRA-CT thanks the Committee for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to SB 1178 and HB 6668, both of which would mandate all employers provide paid sick days. HB 6668 makes an exception for employers with 10 or less employees who would alternatively be required to provide unpaid sick leave benefits.

Paid sick leave would be a particularly onerous mandate on companies that are engaged in residential construction industry and exacerbate our state's current housing affordability and accessibility crisis. In addition, our industry already suffers from high rates of individuals that are employed under the table, adding additional overhead costs will likely increase the number of contractors and subcontractors engaged in such illegal practices, placing law abiding contractors at a distinct disadvantage while also increasing the number of unsuspecting consumers who experience harm to property by unregistered contractors and are exempt from redress via the contractor guaranty fund. Lastly, construction contracts often have monetary penalties associated with them for contractors that don't meet explicit deadlines. Limiting the flexibility our employers have in managing their workforce may further expose them to contractual penalties thereby harming the viability of these businesses that traditionally run on thin margins.

The HBRA-CT respectfully requests that the Committee reject SB 1178 and HB 6668.